# **Obtaining a Premium DS Logon Account**

Overview: In order to participate in the VA Mobile Health Family Caregiver pilot, Veterans and Family Caregiver's must have an eBenefits premium account (DS Logon). eBenefits is a secure website used by Service members, Veterans, and their families that allows access to many Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Department of Defense (DoD) online benefits and resources. Getting an eBenefits premium account (DS Logon) allows you to access your personal information held by VA and DOD and ensures the privacy and security of Veteran and Family Caregiver participants' information.

Who needs an account for the VA Mobile Health Family Caregiver pilot?: Both Veterans and Family Caregivers will need an eBenefits premium account (DS logon).

### What do I need in order to obtain an eBenefits premium account (DS Logon)?:

Both Veteran and Family Caregiver must be enrolled in Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) to obtain an eBenefits premium account (DS Logon). Enrollment in DEERS is automatic for all Service members and Veterans (but not necessarily Family Caregivers) who have served since 1982. Those who served prior to 1982 are being added from VA/DoD records. If you are not enrolled in DEERS the eBenefits system will notify you during the registration process.

Both Veteran and Family Caregiver must register for an eBenefts Basic Registration (Level 1) from the secure eBenefits website.

Both Veteran and Family Caregiver must upgrade to an eBenefits premium account (DS Logon) by performing "Remote Proofing", which verifies your identity.

**What do I need to do?:** In order for a Veteran and Family Caregiver to obtain an eBenefits premium account (DS Logon) several steps are needed depending on the level of access the Veteran and Family Caregiver have previously obtained. Please note:

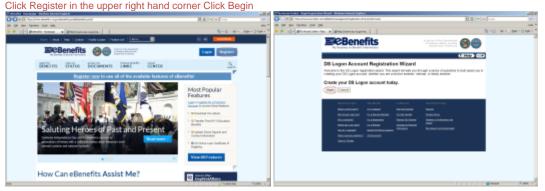
Veteran and Family Caregiver's can use a CAC card to obtain an eBenefits premium account (DS Logon) from the eBenefits web site (www.ebenefits.va. gov) or;

Veteran and Family Caregiver's can authenticate with their DFAS myPay account from the eBenefits web site or; (This method is not recommended)

Veteran and Family Caregiver's can register for an eBenefits Basic Registration (Level 1) from the eBenefits web site and then upgrade to an eBenefits premium account (DS Logon) by performing "Remote Proofing". (This is the preferred method)

# How to Obtain an eBenefits Premium Account (DS Logon) as a Veteran or Family Caregiver

STEP 1 - Visit the eBenefits website at www.ebenefits.va.gov and Click REGISTER to access the DS Logon Account Registration Wizard, Next, Click Begin.

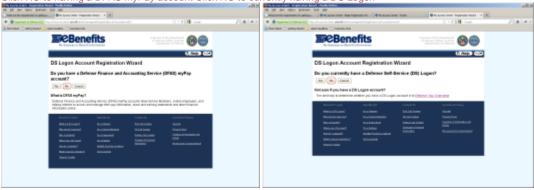


STEP 2 - If you have a DoD Common Access Card (CAC) and a smart card reader Click YES to receive your eBenefits premium account (DS Logon) instantly. If you do not have a (CAC) card Click NO and proceed to step 3.



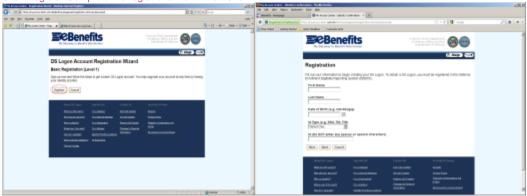
<u>STEP 3</u> – Click NO. Even if you have a DFAS myPay account, this option is not always reliable and will cause unnecessary delay in the process. Click NO for "Do you currently have a Defense Self-Service (DS) Logon?"

Click NO to having a DFAS myPay account Click NO to currently having a DS Logon



<u>STEP 4</u> - Click Register to apply for the eBenefits Basic Registration (Level 1) account.

Click Register Complete the registration form then Click Next



If you fill out the registration form and receive an Error, your personal information was not found in DEERS. You must follow the "How to Enroll in DEERS" instructions below.

If you receive this error please proceed to "How to Enroll in DEERS"



STEP 5 - Once you have completed you eBenefits Basic Registration (Level 1) select the option to upgrade your account to an eBenefits premium account (DS Logon). This will require you to verify your identity through "Remote Proofing".

Note: The "Remote Proofing" questions are used to verify your Identity. You will have two chances to answer the questions correctly. If you are unable to complete the "Remote Proofing" process call the VBA Support Center at 1-800-827-1000, Option 7, to discuss the best way to proceed.

#### How to Enroll in DEERS

If your record was not found while registering for eBenefits Basic Registration (Level 1) you will need to enroll in DEERS. Please follow the steps below.

STEP 1: Call the VBA National Call Center at 1-800-827-1000, Option 7.

STEP 2: Inform the operator that you are a Veteran or a Family Caregiver and need to be enrolled (Added) in DEERS.

STEP 3: Provide the operator with an email address and tell them you want to be notified by email once you have been added in DEERS.

**STEP 4**: Once you receive the DEERS enrollment confirmation email, Login to the eBenefits website at www.ebenefits.va.gov and follow the "How to Obtain an eBenefits Premium Account (DS Logon)" instructions above.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

• What if I am not sure if I have an eBenefits premium account (DS Logon), or I have one but have forgotten my login information?

You can try to log in by selecting "Login" from the eBenefits website. https://www.ebenefits.va.gov. If you have forgotten your login information you can click "Forgotten Username/Password". You can also call the DMDC Support Center at 1-800-477-8227 (select option 2, and then select option 2 again) to receive account assistance.

• I am a Veteran or a Family Caregiver. I tried to do the eBenefits Basic Registration (Level 1) but when I filled out the form I received this error: Error Code[P1]: The personal information you provided was not found in DEERS. Please try again.

If you received this error then either the Veteran or Family Caregiver was not found in the DEERS system. Refer to the <u>How to Enroll in DEERS</u> section of this document.

What if I could not complete the "Remote Proofing"?

If you were unable to complete the "Remote Proofing" call the VBA Support Center at 1-800-827-1000, Option 7

· I have followed the instructions but things are not working out.

You can call the DMDC Support Center at 1-800-477-8227 (select option 2, and then select option 2 again).

I have a CAC card but do not have a computer with a card reader.

If you have a CAC card but no reader, please choose one of the other methods to establish your account.